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POLITICAL SCIENCE

GOLDSMITH, ROBERT. *A League to Enforce Peace*. Pp. xxvi, 331. Price, \$1.50. New York: The Macmillan Company, 1917.

The aim of this book is twofold: to show why various agencies and forces such as pacifism, Christianity, organized labor, diplomacy, business, etc., have failed to prevent wars in the past, to answer the objections that have been made against the proposed League to Enforce Peace and to show that it is the most practicable remedy yet suggested for the prevention of wars.

To the chief objection that the joining of such a league by this country would be contrary to our traditional policy in respect to European alliances, the author replies that the League does not contemplate an alliance in the older and more objectionable sense of the term but merely a policy of coöperation for the preservation of the peace of the world. The United States has attained such a position of influence and leadership that it can no longer pursue a policy of isolation but must become a partner with the other great nations in maintaining the peace. If nations should hesitate to introduce reforms until they become certain that the reforms would be effective the world's progress would be hindered indefinitely. The time has arrived when the world must take measures to prevent if possible the recurrence of such catastrophies as that which we are now witnessing. The League to Enforce Peace has received the approval of many statesmen and leaders of practical thought in all countries. Why not give it a trial? If it fails, no harm will have been done; if it succeeds, the world will have achieved its greatest victory in the fight for civilization.

J. W. G.

SIMS, NEWELL L. *Ultimate Democracy and Its Making*. Pp. 347. Price, \$1.50. Chicago: A. C. McClurg and Company, 1917.

Viewing the achievement of ultimate democracy as a process of persistent conflict between aggregations of forces, the author appraises the contending forces in American society and foresees inevitable victory for Demos. But the democratic triumph requires a collective purpose in government to effect radical changes in existing social institutions and situations. Socialization of wealth initiated by government ownership of public utilities, public regulation of big business, and taxation to equalize wealth, together with a rigid restriction of immigration, will promote the production of economic equality. There remains natural aristocracy, at bottom as bad as any other aristocracy and a barrier to the realization of ultimate democracy. "Inequality of conditions, contrary to the doctrines of some Socialists, comes not primarily and ultimately for many from the present distribution of wages and wealth, but from an inequitable distribution of talent." Eugenic proposals tend to raise the average quality of the stock and to lessen the deviation therefrom. Democracy is advanced by the constantly accumulating experience in democratic government, the diffusion of the democratic idea, the urbanization of society, the spirit of the Scientific-Industrial Age, and the Universal Peace Movement. The Industrial Age by stimulating international class-consciousness sublimates patriotism and aids the warfare of national and world democracy against militarism, a tripartite tyranny of autocracy, aristocracy and